



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of Workers' Compensation Programs

Proposed Extension of the Approval of Information Collection Requirements

ACTION: Notice

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) [44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)]. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs is soliciting comments concerning the proposed collection: **Medical Travel Refund Request (OWCP-957)**. A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addresses section of this Notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addresses section below on or before **[Insert date 60 days from the date of publication]**.

ADDRESSES: Mr. Vincent Alvarez, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW, Room S-3201, Washington,

D.C. 20210, telephone (202) 693-0372, fax (202) 693-2447, Email alvarez.vincen@dol.gov. Please use only one method of transmission for comments (mail, fax, or Email).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

I. Background: The Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) is the agency responsible for administration of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA), 5 U.S.C. 8101 *et seq.*, the Black Lung Benefits Act (BLBA), 30 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*, and the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA), 42 U.S.C. 7384 *et seq.* All three of these statutes require that OWCP reimburse beneficiaries for travel expenses for covered medical treatment. In order to determine whether amounts requested as travel expenses are appropriate, OWCP must receive certain data elements, including the signature of the physician for medical expenses claimed under the BLBA. Form OWCP-957 is the standard format for the collection of these data elements. The regulations implementing these three statutes allow for the collection of information needed to enable OWCP to determine if reimbursement requests for travel expenses should be paid. This information collection is currently approved for use through October 31, 2013.

II. Review Focus: The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

- * evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the

functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

- * evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

- * enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and

- * minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

III. Current Actions: The Department of Labor seeks approval for the extension of this information collection in order to carry out its responsibility to determine if requests for reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses incurred when traveling to medical providers for covered medical testing or treatment should be paid.

Type of Review: Extension.

Agency: Office of Workers' Compensation Programs.

Title: Medical Travel Refund Request.

OMB Number: 1240-0037.

Agency Number: CM-957

Affected Public: Individual or households

Total Respondents: 302,794.

Total Responses: 302,794.

Time per Response: 10 minutes

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 50,263

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): \$0.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): \$148,369.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

DATED: June 10, 2013

Vincent Alvarez
Agency Clearance Officer,
Office of Workers' Compensation Programs
US Department of Labor

Billing Code No. 4510-CR-P

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